

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

Presents

DRAMA WORKSHOP

I. THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA - Act II . . . . . Federico Garcia Lorca

(In the authorized translation by James Graham Lujan and Richard O'Connell)

CAST

Bernarda	.	.	.	.	.	60 years	.	.	.	Mary Lou White
Angustias (daughter of Bernarda)	.	.	.	.	.	39 years	.	.	.	Claire McIntosh
Magdalena	"	"	"	"	.	30 years	.	.	.	Pamela Soldwedel
Amelia	"	"	"	"	.	27 years	.	.	.	Elizabeth Bacon
Martirio	"	"	"	"	.	24 years	.	.	.	Diane Bishop
Adela	"	"	"	"	.	20 years	.	.	.	Irene Moore
Poncia (a maid)	.	.	.	.	.	60 years	.	.	.	Marilyn Carlson
Maid	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Marion Marsh

Directed by Deane Worth

Designed by Diane Bishop

Scene: A room in the house of Bernarda Alba, in a Spanish village

Time : The present

Synopsis: Bernarda, making a desperate effort to maintain her position of supremacy in her home and in the village society, governs her daughters with a hand of steel. Her husband has just died leaving Angustias, the eldest daughter, with the family lands. Thus Angustias is to marry Pepe el Romano, fifteen years her junior, but the only "eligible" man in the town. Her sisters, imprisoned in the house for life, are seething with jealousy. Act II opens with Bernarda's daughters and Poncia working on the trousseau.

Short Intermission

II. THE INFERNAL MACHINE - Act II . . . . . Jean Cocteau

(The Meeting of Oedipus and the Sphinx)

(English version by Carl Wildman)

CAST

The Sphinx	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Claire McIntosh
Anubis, Egyptian God of the Dead	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Richard Golden
The Theban Matron	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Pamela Soldwedel
A little boy	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Anne Sharp
A little girl	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Ruth Rigler
Oedipus	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	Edward Thommen

Designed and directed by Richard Baldrige

'He will kill his father. He will marry his mother.'

"To thwart this oracle of Apollo, Jocasta, Queen of Thebes, leaves her son on the mountain-side with his feet pierced and bound. A shepherd of Corinth finds the nursling and carries it to Polybius. Polybius and Merope, king and queen of Corinth, were bemoaning a sterile marriage. The child, Oedipus or Pierced Feet, respected by bears and wolves, is to them a heaven-sent gift. They adopt him.

When a young man, Oedipus questions the oracle of Delphi. The god speaks: You will murder your father and marry your mother. He must therefore fly from Polybius and Merope. The fear of parricide and incest drives him on towards his fate.

One evening, arriving at the cross-roads of Delphi and Daulis, he meets an escort. A horse jostles him; a quarrel starts; a servant threatens him; he replies with a blow from his stick. The blow misses the servant and kills the master. The dead man is Laius, the old king of Thebes. Parricide!

The escort, fearing an ambush, takes to its heels. Oedipus, unsuspecting, passes on. Besides, he is young, enthusiastic; this accident is soon forgotten.

During one of his halts, he learns of the scourge of the Sphinx. The Sphinx, 'the Winged Virgin', 'the Singing Bitch', is killing off the young men of Thebes. This monster asks a riddle and kills those who do not guess it. Queen Jocasta, widow of Laius, offers her hand and crown to the conqueror of the Sphinx.

Spectator, this machine you see here, wound up to the full in such a way that the spring will slowly unwind the whole length of a human life, is one of the most perfect constructed by the infernal gods for the mathematical destruction of a mortal."

From the first act of The Infernal Machine

#### Short Intermission

III. SERENA BLANDISH - Act I, Scene II . . . . . S. N. Behrman

#### CAST

Mrs. Blandish . . . . .	Marilyn Carlson
Serena Blandish, her daughter . . . . .	Elizabeth Bacon
Countess Flor di Folio . . . . .	Claire McIntosh
Frederic, the chauffeur. . . . .	James Thompson

Designed and directed by Edward Thommen

Time: Present . . . Late afternoon  
Place: London . . . The Blandish's basement flat near the waterfront

Production Staff

Technical Direction: James Thompson

Costume Construction: Mrs. Lillian Foucher

Stage Manager: Marion Marsh

Crews:

Construction; Deane Worth, head; Margaret Donahoe, Irma H agemann,  
Martha Irvin, Cynthia Kelley, Olga Landeck, Sheila Maloy,  
Anne Mobley, Suzanne Sessions, Joan Tewksbury

Costume; Angelica Griswold, head; Diane Bishop, Gail Gardner,  
Barbara Godley, Barbara Greig, Jonne Hutton, Carolyn Kimball

Anubis' mask and Sphinx' pedestal by Claire-Lise Boepple

Lighting; Ruth Rigler, head; Susan Jones, Nancy Smith

Props; Diane Lloyd-Smith, head; Maribel Asher, Carol Bressler,  
Jane Hull, Elaine May

Shifting; Marion Marsh, head; Gail Gardner, Olga Landeck,  
Suzanne Lochhead, Joan Tewksbury, Mary Lou White,  
Nancy Williams

Sound; Barbara Allen, Richard Golden